Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 26 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Wednesday 27 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 26 Dec 2023 at 03:46 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for Tuesday and Wednesday. High for changeable and cold weather for the end of the week but low for daily detail.

Headline for Tuesday 26 Dec 2023: Bright, very cold with a few snow showers

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 26 Dec 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Partly cloudy (night)	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
40%	40%	40%	20%	00%	00%

Forecast for Tuesday 26 Dec 2023

Weather: Clear or sunny periods and occasional snow showers. Drier weather will develop across the south of the region by mid-afternoon with showers becoming confined to northern Sutherland and Caithness.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70%

Low cloud and visibility: Very good visibility with great air clarity. Some patchy cloud down to 800 metres as showers pass by.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Tuesday 26 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	26/31 W	18/22 W	16/20 W	12/15 W	11/13 E	24/33 E	36/47 E
900	24/28 W	17/20 W	16/20 W	12/14 W	11/14 E	25/34 E	36/47 E
600	13/19 W	10/13 W	9/14 W	6/9 W	8/11 E	16/26 E	22/34 E
300	3/21 NW	3/16 NW	3/14 W	3/10 W	5/10 E	8/21 E	8/28 E
Glen	7/17 NW	3/8 NW	3/8 NW	3/5 N	8/11 E	15/25 E	17/32 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-4/-13	-4/-11	-3/-10	-3/-9	-4/-9	-5/-13	-5/-15
900	-3/-11	-3/-10	-2/-9	-3/-8	-3/-8	-4/-12	-4/-14
600	-1/-6	-1/-5	-0/-5	-0/-3	-1/-5	-2/-8	-1/-9
300	1/-1	1/-1	2/-0	1/-1	-1/-4	-1/-5	-0/-4
Glen	4/1	3/2	4/3	4/3	3/-0	2/-3	3/-3
Freezing Level*	400m	400m	500m	500m	400m	200m	200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
With low temperatures all day it will feel bitterly cold at height. Icy surfaces possible at lower elevations.

Forecast for Wednesday 27 Dec 2023
Weather: Widespread snow, heavy at times, will sweep northwards through the morning. Combined with easterly storm force winds this will lead to blizzard like conditions. Drier weather will spread northeast later in the afternoon along with a few showers by evening. Any snow will become confined to the highest tops across Skye, northern Lochaber and Wester Ross later on as it turns less cold.

Maximum wind: Easterly 50 mph gust 70 mph. Winds easing later in the afternoon and veering southwesterly 30 mph gust 50 mph

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance for much of the day

Low cloud and visibility: Very poor in snow, and in extensive low cloud down to 500 to 800 metres

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 1 rising to 3 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 2 rising to 2 Celsius in the southwest of the area
Freezing level: 400 metres, rising to 1000 to 1500 metres across the southwest of the region

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